

was filed before receiving a reply.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the currently pending claims 8 to 18 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the present application issue as early as possible.

If it would further allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the contact information shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

(By: Quida N. Bundy  
Reg. No. 47084)

Dated: July 29, 2003

By: Richard L. Mayer

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